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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated

SOVIET ARMY CELEBRATES MAY DAY 1950

Parades were held on 1 May 1950 in many cities in connection with the celebration of May Day. Orders of the day were issued by both the USSR War Minister and the USSR Navy Minister. Garrison commanders issued parade orders during the week preceding the holiday. Military units from local garrisons and military schools paraded to start off giant civilian demonstrations. The emphasis this year, as shown by the relatively short duration of the Moscow military parade, was predominantly civilian. Most provincial newspapers devoted less than half a column to the local military parades. The following information on the parades and celebrations was taken from local newspapers. Numbers in parentheses refer to the appended sources.

KISHTNEV

Guards General-leytenant S. Kozak, commander of the Kishinev Garrison, issued Order No 49, dated 29 April 1950, to troops of the Kishinev Garrison, as follows: Troop units of the Kishinev Garrison will participate in the parade. The deputy commander of the garrison will lead the parade, which will be reviewed by the commander. Summer parade uniforms will be worn. Colonel of Militia Pashchenko, chief of the Kishinev Militia Administration, will be responsible for the maintenance of order during the parade. (1)

The parade was reviewed by Guards General-leytenant S. A. Kozak. Other officers on the reviewing stand were I. L. Mordovets [Minister of State Security, Moldavian SSR] and F. Ya. Tutushkin [Minister of Internal Affairs, Moldavian SSR]. (2)

KLEV

General-leytenant Kosyakin, commander of the Kiev Garrison, issued Order No 11, dated 25 April 1950, to troops of the Kiev Garrison, as follows: Military school and troop units located in Kiev will participate

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in the parade. Guards General-polkovnik Grechko, commander of the Kiev Military District, will review the parade. General-leytenant Kosyakin is designated as parade commander. Summer parade uniforms will be worn. General-mayor Trantin, commandant of the Kiev Garrison, will be responsible for maintenance of order during the parade.(3)

Guards General-polkovnik A. A. Grechko reviewed the military parade.(4)

MINSK

General-polkovnik Chibisov, commander of the Minsk Garrison, issued Order No 46, dated 27 April 1950, to troops of the Minsk Garrison, as follows: Marshal of the Soviet Union Timoshenko, commander of the Belorussian Military District, will review the parade. General-polkovnik Chibisov is designated as parade commander. General and officers will wear parade uniforms; privates and noncommissioned officers will wear summer uniforms. The chief of the Minsk Militia Administration will close pedestrian and all transport traffic at 0800, 1 May, on the following streets: Sovetskaya, Moskovskaya, Nemiga, Gai'kiy, and adjoining side streets. The Minsk Garrison commandant and the chief of the Militia Administration will be responsible for the maintenance of order during the parade.(5)

Marshal S. K. Timoshenko received the report of General-polkovnik Chibisov, parade commander, took his place on the reviewing stand, made a short speech, and reviewed the troops.(6)

PETROZAVODSK

The Commander of the Petrozavodsk Garrison issued Order No 20, dated 30 April 1950, to troops of the Petrozavodsk Garrison: Military units and members of administrations and institutions located in Petrozavodsk will take part in the parade. The commander of the White Sea Military District will review the parade. Summer parade uniforms will be worn. The commandant of the city of Petrozavodsk will be responsible for the maintenance of order during the parade.(7)

RIGA

The order of General-leytenant Gerasimenko, commander of the Riga Garrison, to troops of the Riga Garrison was probably printed in Sovetskaya Latvija on 29 or 30 April. However, neither of these issues is available in CIA.

The parade was commanded by General-leytenant Gerasimenko and reviewed by General of the Army I. Kh. Bagramyan, commander of the Baltic Military District.(8)

TBILISI

The May Day order of the commander of the Tbilisi Garrison to troops of the garrison was not published in Zarya Vostoka. The parade was commanded

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by General-leytenant A. Tarasov (9), a role usually delegated to the commander of the Tbilisi Garrison. No mention is made of General-mayor Yushkevich, who, as commander of the Tbilisi Garrison, issued the order to troops of the Tbilisi Garrison for the 7 November parade.(10)

General of the Army A. Antonov, commander of the Transcaucasus Military District, reviewed the troops at the parade. Cadets of the Nakhimov Naval School and other military schools, as well as troops of the Tbilisi garrison, participated in the parade.(9)

TASHKENT

The May Day order of the commander of the Tashkent Garrison was not published in Pravda Vostoka.

General of the Army I. Ye. Petrov, commander of the Turkestan Military District, inspected and reviewed the troops. Cadets of the Tashkent Infantry, Tark and Suvorov schools, together with units of the military garrison, participated in the parade.(11)

VIL'NYUS

General-mayor Olev, commander of the Vil'nyus Garrison, issued Order No 9, dated 30 April 1950, to troops of the Vil'nyus Garrison: Troop units located in Vil'nyus will participate in the parade, under the command of General-mayor Olev. Summer parade uniforms will be worn. Abramyan, military commandant of Vil'nyus, will be responsible for the maintenance of order. Zadorozhnyy will carry out the artillery salute.(12)

Only Party and government officials were listed among those reviewing the parade in the four lines devoted to the military part of the May Day parade.(13)

YEREVAN

The commander of the Yerevan Garrison issued Order No 10, dated 30 April 1950, to troops of the Yerevan Garrison: Units of the garrison will assemble and form according to instructions of the Yerevan Garrison commandant. Summer parade uniform will be worn. The Yerevan Garrison commandant will be responsible for maintenance of order during the parade.(14)

Units of the Yerevan Garrison were reviewed, and then passed in parade.(15)

LENINGRAD

General-polkovnik A. Luchinskiy, commander of the Leningrad Military District, issued order No 6, dated 30 April 1950, to troops of the Leningrad Garrison: Units of the military academies and schools, and army and navy troops will participate in the parade. General-polkovnik A. Luchinskiy will review

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the parade, which is to be led by General-polkovnik Kovalev. General-mayor Paramzin, commandant of the city garrison, will be responsible for maintenance of order during the parade.(16)

Party and government officials, accompanied by representatives of the army and navy, reviewed units of the Baltic Fleet based in Leningrad. General-polkovnik A. Luchinskiy inspected the troops, received the report of the parade commander, and then reviewed school and army and navy units stationed in the city.(17)

OTHERS

Military parades were also held in Frunze, Stalinabad, and Tallin, with naval and military reviews in Baku and Vladivostok.(18) The demonstration in Alma-Ata was entirely civilian.(19) Turkmenskaya Iskra published in Ashkhabad, Turkmen SSR, the only remaining republic center, is not available in CIA.

SOURCES

1. Sovetskaya Moldaviya, No 86, 30 Apr 50
2. Sovetskaya Moldaviya, No 88, 4 May 50
3. Pravda Ukrainy, No 102, 29 Apr 50
4. Pravda Ukrainy, No 105, 4 May 50
5. Sovetskaya Belorussiya, No 88, 30 Apr 50
6. Sovetskaya Belorussiya, No 90, 4 May 50
7. Leninskoye Znanyie, No 87, 30 Apr 50
8. Sovetskaya Latvija, No 105, 4 May 50
9. Zarya Vostoka, No 91, 4 May 50
10. Zarya Vostoka, No 219, 6 Nov 49
11. Pravda Vostoka, No 103, 4 May 50
12. Sovetskaya Litva, No 103, 30 Apr 50
13. Sovetskaya Litva, No 105, 4 May 50
14. Kommunist, No 103, 30 Apr 50
15. Kommunist, No 105, 4 May 50
16. Leningradskaya Pravda, No 103, 30 Apr 50
17. Leningradskaya Pravda, No 105, 4 May 50
18. Izvestiya, No 105, 4 May 50
19. Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 92, 4 May 50

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